

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

2015 Wisconsin Act 360 [2015 Assembly Bill 558] Size and Weight Limits on I-39 & I-41

2015 Wisconsin Act 360 makes changes to state law relating to permits issued by the Department of Transportation authorizing the operation of vehicles that exceed weight and length limits on certain highways.

BACKGROUND

Under federal law, no motor vehicle may exceed specified weight limits on interstate highways. An exemption exists for portions of I-39 and I-41, allowing the operation of vehicles that would have been allowed to operate on those highways prior to their designation as interstate highways. Under state law, the portion of I-41 that is exempt from the federal weight limits is defined as the "I-41 corridor."

2015 WISCONSIN ACT 360

The Act does the following:

- Clarifies and implements the federal weight grandfathering provisions for both the I-39 and I-41 corridors.
- Defines the I-39 corridor as that portion of I-39 between I-94 near the City of Portage and State Highway 29 south of the City of Wausau. The Act also replaces numerous references to the highway section that is now defined as the "I-39 corridor" with the defined term.
- Specifies that weight limit exemptions for implements of husbandry and agriculture commercial vehicles do not apply on interstate highways, except for an implement of husbandry operated on the I-41 corridor.

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information,

consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <u>http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov</u>.

- Provides that, in addition to the I-41 corridor, a permit for the transportation of raw forest products may be issued for the portion of the I-39 corridor between State Highway 34 in the Town on Knowlton and State Highway 29 south of the City of Wausau.
- Removes the prohibition on a specific information sign being erected within any county having a population over 500,000. The Act also increases the number of specific information signs that may be erected along an approach to an interchange or intersection for each category of motorist service from one sign to up to four signs.

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